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INFORMATION REPORT

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CD NO. 50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Hungary/Yugoslavia
SUBJECT Yugoslav Refusal to Allow Passage of Ships Intended for the Soviet Union

CONFIDENTIAL

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1. The Ganz shipbuilding firm at Budapest has completed eight ships of 1,100 tons and two ships of about 2,500 tons for export to the Soviet Union.
2. The ships, one of which is the URAL, were taken down the Danube en route to the Black Sea, but the Yugoslav authorities refused to allow the ship to pass through Yugoslav territory.
3. The ships were brought back to the Ganz yards where they still remain.
4. [redacted] the Yugoslavs did not actually refuse transit rights, but ruled that parts of the Danube had become silted up and ships of this size could not pass. The Yugoslavs had, in fact, deliberately allowed this to happen. [redacted] a 100-ton crane manufactured by the Ganz firm for export to the Soviet Union had begun its return voyage towed by a Soviet ship. The Soviet crew had deserted in Yugoslavia and the crane was now in possession of the Yugoslavs.

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